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Press statement: Uniroyal Dispute

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PRESS STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER OF LABOUR & INDUSTRY.

MONDAY 9/8/71.

UNIROYAL DISPUTE.

Employees of the Uniroyal works who decided to defy the recommendations of their own union to return to work had been badly advised, the Minister of Labour & Industry, Mr. D.H. McKee, said today.

"I don't know who they have been listening to, but the guidance they have been given has been mischievous in the extreme", he said.

"I believe they should go back to work.

"The arbitration system has been very accommodating towards them. Their case was to be heard this afternoon. I don't know what more they could fairly ask.

"If they really want their wages reviewed their course of action is obvious.

"Their union clearly recognised this and gave them proper advice in the circumstances.

"By isolating themselves as they have done they are placing their jobs in jeopardy. They are putting themselves offside with the union movement and involving many innocent people.

"I appeal to them to reconsider and heed the advice of their union representatives who have fought so doggedly for them".